

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Pittman, Boylan, Carlucci and Amaro:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2025-154-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE
7 AND NUMEROUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF EDUCATOR AND
8 ARTS ADVOCATE JANE SHARP CONDON; PROVIDING AN
9 EFFECTIVE DATE.

10
11 **WHEREAS,** Jane Condon, a native of Indianapolis who moved to
12 Jacksonville at age four, graduated from Riverside (formerly Lee)
13 High School, earned her bachelor's degree in English and Secondary
14 Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, earned
15 a master's degree in Elementary Education from the University of
16 Florida, and an Educational Specialist degree in Educational
17 Administration from Florida State University; and

18 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Condon began her teaching career in Jacksonville
19 before joining the Department of Defense Schools in Germany and Japan.
20 Upon returning to Jacksonville, she served eleven years as a principal
21 in Duval County Public Schools before being appointed to a life
22 defining tenure as Principal of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts
23 ("DASOTA") in 1986. DASOTA was the county's recently established
24 performing arts magnet school. Under her vision and leadership, the
25 school quickly became one of the top-ranked arts academic magnet
26 schools in the nation; and

27 **WHEREAS,** after 10 successful years at DASOTA, Jane Condon was
28 asked to create a middle school of the arts which would provide future
29 DASOTA students an arts-centric foundation to prepare them for high
30 school. She worked with top-ranked local architects and construction
31 firms to design and build LaVilla School of the Arts ("LASOTA") from

1 the ground up and worked to assemble what she admirably called her
2 "dream team" of educators to launch LASOTA in 2000; and

3 **WHEREAS,** she retired in 2003 after a 17-year career with Duval
4 County Public Schools; Ms. Condon continued her passions for education
5 and the arts by launching the First Coast Community Music School,
6 serving as a founding member of the TEDxJax committee, and fostering
7 many artistic endeavors, including Phase Eight Theatre Company and
8 Lumen Repertory Theatre of Greater Jacksonville. Her dedication in
9 building institutions of artistic excellence earned her the *Florida*
10 *Times-Union's* EVE Award for Education in 1991; and

11 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Condon passed away peacefully on February 13,
12 2025; Jane Condon was a pillar of both the educational and arts
13 communities in Jacksonville and her enduring legacy will live on
14 through the many lives she touched, the schools she built, and the
15 communities she enriched with her passion, emotional intelligence,
16 sophistication and flair; now therefore

17 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

18 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commemorates
19 the life and numerous accomplishments of educator and arts advocate
20 Jane Sharp Condon and extends its sincere condolences to her family,
21 friends and countless admirers. Ms. Condon's passion for and
22 dedication to arts, education and their intersection are legendary
23 and will be her lasting legacy in our community.

24 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
26 without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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